

<b>Well Being of Children</b>		<b>Agency/Program #:</b> 6901-03-G1
		<b>Division:</b> Child and Family Services
		<b>Program:</b> Foster Care
<b>Agency Name:</b>	Department of Health and Human Services	
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Shirley Brown / Scott Sim	444-5906
<b>LFC Contact:</b>	Senator Cobb, Senator Williams	
<b>LFD Liaison:</b>	Marilyn Daumiller	444-5386
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**Program or Project Description:**

The Child and Family Services Division is working towards improving the frequency and quality of face to face contact with children in care.

LFD Note: The following appropriation data is the budget for the division. There are not separate appropriations for the categories of safety, well being and permanency of children.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source				
Fund Name:	2008		2009	
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended
General Fund	31,641,073	24,373,351	33,680,859	
State Special	2,797,452	2,004,217	2,583,376	
Federal Funds	30,921,890	20,471,955	31,475,257	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$65,360,415</b>	<b>\$46,849,523</b>	<b>\$67,739,492</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of April 15, 2007

**Legislative Goal(s):**

The goal is to ensure the Well Being of children in foster care. The Child and Family Services Division will improve social worker face-to-face contact with children in care. The frequency and quality of visits between caseworkers and children must be sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child and promote achievement of the case goals.

**Legislative Performance Measures :**

Social Worker face-to-face contact with children will improve 5% by the end of FY 2009 from the FY 2007 baseline of 40%.

Progress in meeting this goal will be measured by manually reviewing 75 case files for compliance every six months.

2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:		Completion Dates	
		Target	Actual
1	Social worker face-to-face contact with children improved 3 % from the FY 2007 baseline of 40.0%.	6/30/2008	4/14/2008
2	Social worker face-to-face contact with children improved 5.0 % from the FY 2007 baseline of 40.0%.	6/30/2009	
3			
4			
5			

**Agency Performance Report:**

This report is based on the latest data collection through March 31, 2007. These data do not relate to the 2009 Biennium.

75 cases were reviewed for each of the following 6 month periods:

For 04/01/06-09/30/06 the frequency and quality of face to face contact between the worker and child was sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child and promote achievement of the case goals in 46.67% of cases reviewed. For 10/01/06-03/31/07 the frequency and quality of face to face contact between the worker and child was sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of the child and promote achievement of the case goals in 45.83% of the cases reviewed. Average for these two periods is 46.25%.

The next measurement of this item will occur during the on-site Federal Review in August of 2008 with cases in the period under review 04/01/07-08/15/08. Subsequent reviews of 75 cases will occur every 6 months after the Federal on-site review. The case review results data were finalized 04/02/08.

February 2008 data reported did not include rebuttal information.

**LFD Narrative:**

LFD ASSESSMENT: On-Track

DATA AND APPROPRIATION RELEVANCE: The data presented indicates that the division met its target.

COMMENTS: The three goals for the safety, well being, and timely permanency of children were selected because of the tie to the myriad of federal goals and targets the division tracks as well as the upcoming federal review scheduled for August, 2008. While the data success reflects the present goals and work of the division, please note that the 75 case reviews were dated 2006 and 2007 in accordance with federal monitoring and review.

The slight differences from the figures presented in writing to the workgroup in March are because the February 2008 data reported at that time did not include rebuttal information or any related corrections submitted by the caseworker and supervisors.

With regard to well being and frequency of caseworker visits:

Under the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006, there is federal expectation that by October 1, 2011 all states must be able to prove that 90% of all children in foster care are receiving monthly face-to-face visits with their workers and that a majority of the visits are taking place in the residence of the child (foster home) - including out-of-state placements. Beginning October 2007, states must prove they are making progress to meeting the 90% standard. Beginning October 2008, if a state falls short of this standard it faces possible financial penalties. The workgroup may wish ask if there are related budget or policy changes that would impact the 2011 biennium.

**OPTIONS:**

- 1 - Accept the on-track ranking and ask for an update to the federal review as well as where the program is on the monthly face-to-face review issue at the October meeting
- 2- Accept the ranking and eliminate further follow-up



Version	Date	Author
6901-03-G1--BO-2	5/17/08	Daumiller
6901-03-G1--BO-1	12/5/07	Daumiller

Change Description
Added LFD Narrative
Added LFD Narrative